



**FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA:  
PhRMA's Public Policy Strategy to  
Combat the Opioid Crisis**



**Dana Malick**  
**Senior Director, State Policy**  
Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee  
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# FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA:

## PhRMA's Public Policy Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis

PhRMA and its members are committed to working with other stakeholders to collectively address this growing public health crisis. We support public policies that:

- Ensure patients with legitimate medical needs have access to appropriate pain treatment options
- Ensure patients vulnerable to abuse or addiction, and those with other mental health issues receive appropriate treatment
- Reduce the potential risks of abuse and addiction
- Provide law enforcement with the necessary tools and capacity to combat diversion, fraud and abuse

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1

7-Day Script Limits for  
Acute Pain with exceptions



Prohibit dispensing of schedule II  
drugs in office setting

Policies supporting 30-day script limit  
for chronic pain with measures to  
encourage appropriate use

### Implementing new prescriber requirements to curb overprescribing

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Pain Management

Risks and Benefits of  
prescribing Opioids



Mental Health Disorder  
Screening

New Pain Treatment  
Alternatives

Prescription Drug  
Monitoring Programs

**Implement mandatory, ongoing prescriber  
training to improve education**

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3

Improved Coverage and Access

Elimination of barriers to treatment



Enforcement of Mental Health Parity

Opioid Overdose Reversal Agents

**Expand coverage and access to range of options to treat addiction**

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4

Mandated registration,  
use and training



Data Sharing

PDMP Best Practices

Cross-state Interoperability

**Use prescription drug monitoring  
programs to prevent doctor shopping**

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5

Public-Private Partnerships



Encouraged development  
and expedited review

Address coverage and  
access barriers

**Develop and use new medications to  
reduce the risk of abuse, prevent addiction  
and treat addiction and overdose**

# FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA:

## PhRMA's Public Policy Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis

6

Shut Down Diversion

DEA Emergency Scheduling  
Authority



Assessment of DEA Role  
and Authorities

**Strengthen law enforcement's  
tools and capacity to go after  
illegal activity**

# Thank You!

Dana Malick  
dmalick@phrma.org